



STATE OF ALASKA

DHSS/DPH/Section Women's Children and Family Health

Pediatric Neurodevelopmental Outreach & Autism Screening Clinic

General Referral Guidelines

- This is a screening clinic; it offers impressions, treatment considerations, recommendations, and when appropriate, referral for additional testing at a diagnostic center. The consult is a problem-focused patient assessment and evaluation on children from birth to age 12 for a variety of neurodevelopmental conditions, with a special focus on autism.
- Children must be under the care of a primary health provider & seen within the past 6-months.
- **Referrals must be made by a medical provider; the medical provider is to include developmental assessments and related documentation as part of the referral.**
- Medical staff evaluate the referrals for appropriateness; and when referrals exceed the number of appointments available, rated by priority. Recommendations are provided to the family when a referral does not result in an appointment. The provider making the referral is notified.

The Consult Appointment and Resulting Recommendations

- Families will be asked to complete release of information paperwork, provide insurance and billing information, and bring government issued photo ID. Foster parent *must provide* documentation allowing permission to seek medical treatment on the child's behalf.
- During the 1 1/2 hour appointment, the provider will review patient history, conduct a physical assessment, and interview the family on developmental concerns. Recommendations for treatment are suggested for the family and primary care provider to consider for treatment steps.
- Childcare is not provided for siblings; it is highly recommended to make alternative arrangements
- Within 30 days, the family and medical provider will receive a summary of the recommendations to consider. As a consultative clinic, the recommendations are implemented as appropriate by the child's primary care provider.

The Team

- Medical Staff:
 - ◊ **Ron Brennan, MD**, is the Director of the Center for Children with Special Needs at the Children's Hospital at Providence in Anchorage and serves as a consultant for the State of Alaska for neurodevelopmental issues.
 - ◊ **Teresa Hirst**, is a certified advanced practice pediatric nurse practitioner, specializing in new or follow-up patient assessments and evaluations of children with neurodevelopmental and autism conditions from birth to age 18 years.
 - ◊ **William Walker, MD**, is Chief of Developmental Medicine with the Seattle Children's Hospital.
- Parent Navigation: Stone Soup Group provides professional parent navigation services, assisting and supporting the family to implement recommendations, coordinate appointments, access services, and locate financial resources.
- State of Alaska: Coordinates the clinic, manages referrals, bills insurance for the services provided, and as the office of record, maintains documentation.

Kris Green, Clinic Coordinator

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